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The Marvel Family

NO. 69
10¢
MARCH

A Fawcett Publication

WHAT HORRIBLY EVIL FORCE HAS ROBBED THE THREE YOUNGSTERS OF THEIR YOUTH? READ THE AMAZING STORY OF THE DODDERING DOOM IN

"THE MENACE OF OLD AGE"

THE MARVEL FAMILY • Executive Editor WILL LIEBERSON • Editor WENDELL CROWLEY • Art Editor AL JETTER

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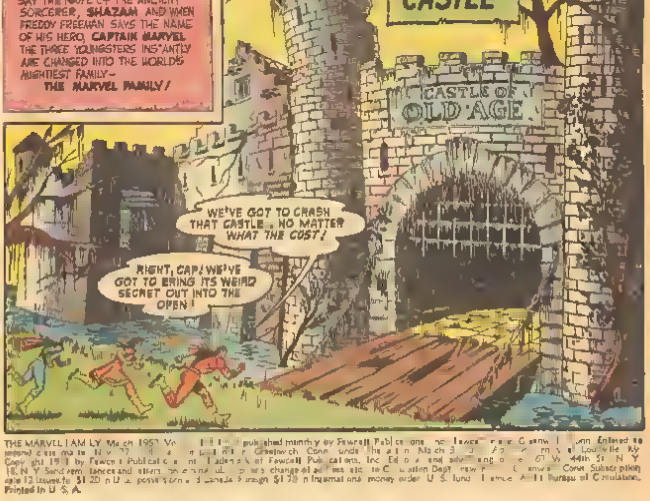
THE MARVEL FAMILY

battles The MENACE of OLD AGE

WHEN MARY AND BILLY BATSON SAY THE NAME OF THE ANCIENT SORCERER, **SHAZAM** AND WHEN FREDDY FREEMAN SAYS THE NAME OF HIS HERO, **CAPTAIN MARVEL** THE THREE YOUNGSTERS INSTANTLY ARE CHANGED INTO THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST FAMILY— **THE MARVEL FAMILY!**

Chapter One
The SECRET of the CASTLE


CASTLE OF OLD AGE
WE'VE GOT TO CRASH THAT CASTLE, NO MATTER WHAT THE COST!
RIGHT, CAP! WE'VE GOT TO BRING ITS WEIRD SECRET OUT INTO THE OPEN!

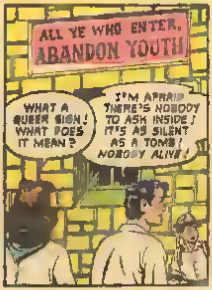
THE MARVEL FAMILY March 1951 Vol. 1 No. 11 published monthly by Fawcett Publications, Inc. Fawcett Building, Minneapolis 3, Minn. Entered as second class matter at the post office at Greenwich, Conn. under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rate for 12 issues $1.20 in U.S. possessions, Canada & Mexico $1.60 in Pan American countries $2.00 in all other countries. Copyright 1951 by Fawcett Publications, Inc. Editorial and advertising offices 67 W. 44th St., N.Y. 18, N.Y. Send remittances and all communications regarding change of address etc. to Circulation Dept. New Subscriptions should allow 2 months for delivery of first issue. Foreign & Canadian orders must be remitted in U.S. funds. Member of the Audit Bureau of Circulations. Printed in U.S.A.

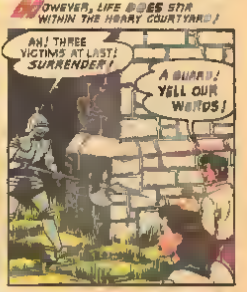
THE CLARION YODELLING OF MOUNTAINEERS RINGING THROUGH THE CLEAR UPPER AIR MAKES ONE THINK OF THE ALPS!
YO DE HO DE
BUT THIS IS AMERICA, AND THE YODELLING COMES FROM THE THROATS OF BILLY AND MARY BATSON AND FREDDY FREEMAN, SPENDING A WEEK END CLIMBING MOUNTAINS OUTSIDE THE CITY!
YOOO DEHO
YOU WIN, MARY! YOU'RE THE BEST YODELLER!
GOSH, IT'S WILD HERE! DO YOU SUPPOSE THERE'S ANY TRUTH IN THAT LEGEND ABOUT THE OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAINS WHO HAS LIVED HERE FOR CENTURIES?
NAW! LEGENDS LIKE THAT ARE FAKES! FINDING THE OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAINS WOULD BE JUST LIKE STUMBLING ACROSS OLD TIME BURIED TREASURE-- HA, HA!
BUT BILLY'S LAUGHTER SUDDENLY CHOKES OFF WHEN.....
HOLY MOLEY!
TREASURE THIS WAY
BURIED TREASURE, HERE IN THE MOUNTAINS! CAN IT BE TRUE?
HURRY! LET'S FIND OUT!
BUT AREN'T THOSE OUR SIGNS? THEY SEEM TO BE LEADING US ON LIKE A--A LURE!
TREASURE THIS WAY
SUDDENLY...
YIPES! IT'S A BALANCING ROCK! OUR WEIGHT TIPPED IT...
CRASH!
BOOM!
BANG!

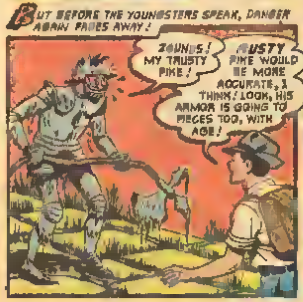
SUDDENLY, ANOTHER THRILLING ADVENTURE LIVES IT TURNS OUT TO BE A THRILLING RIDE!
WE'RE JUST SLIDING DOWN AN ICY SLOPE!
WHEEEEE!

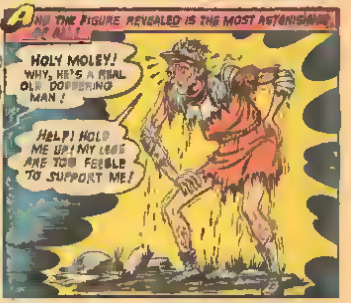
FINALLY, STRANGEST OF ALL, AS THEY ARRIVE BY A HIDDEN NOOK OF THE MOUNTAIN...
LOOK—AN ANCIENT CASTLE!

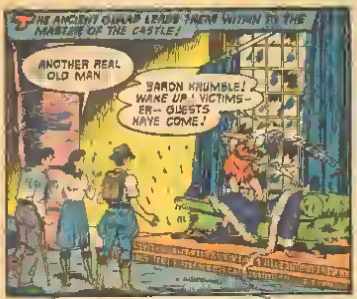
WE'LL HAVE TO FORGET THE TREASURE HUNT, BUT LET'S EXPLORE THIS OLD CASTLE!


ALL YE WHO ENTER, ABANDON YOUTH
WHAT A QUEER SIGN! WHAT DOES IT MEAN?
I'M AFRAID THERE'S NOBODY TO ASK INSIDE! IT'S AS SILENT AS A TOMB! NOBODY ALIVE!


HOWEVER, LIFE DOES STIR WITHIN THE HOARY COURTYARD!
AH! THREE VICTIMS AT LAST! SURRENDER!
A GUARD! YELL OUR WORDS!


BUT BEFORE THE YOUNGSTERS SPEAK, DANGER AGAIN FADES AWAY!
ZOUNDS! MY TRUSTY PIKE!
RUSTY PIKE WOULD BE MORE ACCURATE, I THINK! LOOK, HIS ARMOR IS GOING TO PIECES TOO, WITH AGE!


AND THE FIGURE REVEALED IS THE MOST ASTONISHING OF ALL!
HOLY MOLEY! WHY, HE'S A REAL OLD DODDERING MAN!
HELP! HOLD ME UP! MY LEGS ARE TOO FEEBLE TO SUPPORT ME!

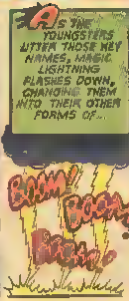

THE ANCIENT OLDAD LEADS THEM WITHIN TO THE MASTER OF THE CASTLE!
ANOTHER REAL OLD MAN
BARON KRUMBLE! WAKE UP! VICTIMS—ER—GUESTS HAVE COME!

UH—EH? ZOUNDS! I MUST HAVE DOZED OFF BRIEFLY!

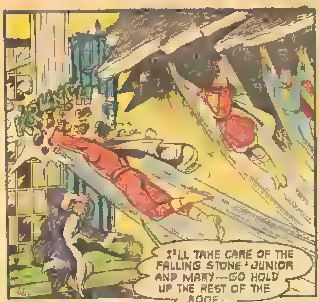
WELL, WELL! VISITORS AT LAST, EH? HEE, HEE! AND SO NICE AND YOUNG! HEE, HEE, HEE! YES, SO NICE AND FRESH AND YOUTHFUL! HEE, HEE!
YOU'RE BARON KRUMBLE, THE MASTER OF THE CASTLE? NOW, OLD IS THIS PLACE, SIR? AND HOW OLD ARE YOU?

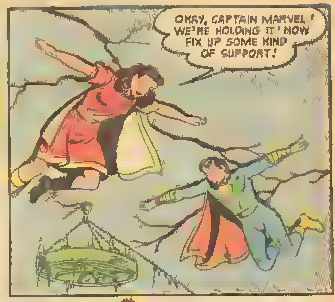
BOTH THE CASTLE AND I ARE THREE HUNDRED YEARS OLD! YES, WE HAVE GONE ON FOR THREE LONG CENTURIES! HEE, HEE!
THREE HUNDRED YEARS? BUT THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE, BARON! NO MAN CAN LIVE CENTURIES! TELL US THE TRUTH!

AT THAT MOMENT, AN OMINOUS SOUND INTERRUPTS!
CRACK
OMIGOSH! THE ROOF IS CRUMBLING AND CAVING IN! REAL DANGER THIS TIME! ALTOGETHER...
SHAZAM!
CAPTAIN MARVEL!

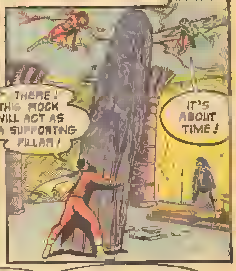

AS THE YOUNGSTERS UTTER THOSE MEY NAMES, MAGIC LIGHTNING FLASHES DOWN, CHANGING THEM INTO THEIR OTHER FORMS OF...
BOOM!
BOOM!
BOOM!

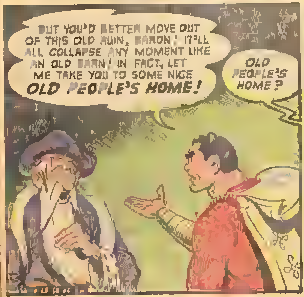
...CAPTAIN MARVEL, MARY MARVEL, AND CAPTAIN MARVEL JR., TOGETHER KNOWN AS THE MIGHTY MARVEL FAMILY!
HELP! I'M TOO YOUNG TO DIE!
RELAX, BARON KRUMBLE!





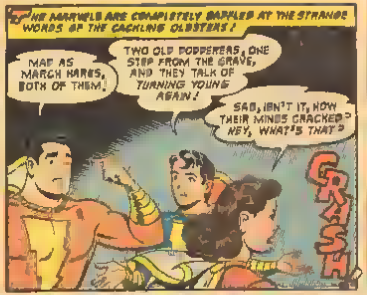
BUT CAPTAIN MARVEL SOON RETURNS FROM OUTSIDE AND—




BUT YOU'D BETTER MOVE OUT OF THIS OLD RUIN, BARON! IT'LL ALL COLLAPSE ANY MOMENT LIKE AN OLD BARN! IN FACT, LET ME TAKE YOU TO SOME NICE OLD PEOPLE'S HOME!
OLD PEOPLE'S HOME?

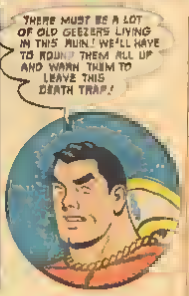
WHY, I'LL SCRATCH YOUR EYES OUT, YOU YOUNG PUP! WHO'S OLD? I'M ONLY TWENTY-NINE!
OH—MAY I PRESENT MY HOUSEKEEPER, MATILDA! SHE'S A BIT— EH— IMPETUOUS! CEASE, HAG!

BUT SHE'S RIGHT! YOU CAN'T TAKE US TO AN OLD PEOPLE'S HOME! YOU SEE, WE'RE GOING TO BECOME YOUNG AGAIN! HEE, HEE!
YES, WE'LL SOON BE YOUNG AND STRONG AND RAPIENT AGAIN! HEE, HEE!

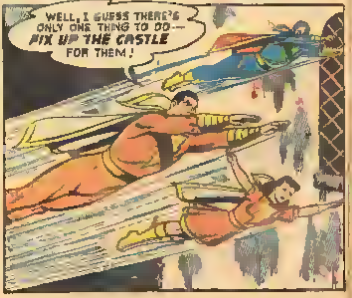

THE MARVELS ARE COMPLETELY BAFFLED AT THE STRANGE WORDS OF THE CACKLING OLDSTERS!
MAD AS MARCH HARES, BOTH OF THEM!
TWO OLD POPPERHEADS, ONE STEP FROM THE GRAVE, AND THEY TALK OF TURNING YOUNG AGAIN!
SAD, ISN'T IT, HOW THEIR MINDS CRACKED? HEY, WHAT'S THAT?
CRASH

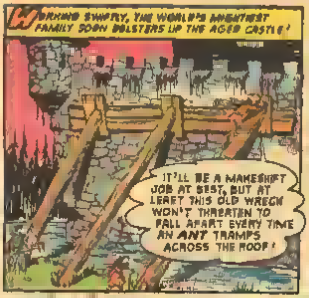
THE FLOOR CRACKED OPEN IN THIS KITCHEN!
HELP!

GUESS YOU'RE THE COOK! AND THIS SAVES YOUR GOOSE FROM BEING COOKED, SHALL WE SAY?


THERE MUST BE A LOT OF OLD GEEZERS LIVING IN THIS RUIN! WE'LL HAVE TO ROUND THEM ALL UP AND WARN THEM TO LEAVE THIS DEATH TRAP!

SOON, WHEN THE CASTLE STAFF HAS BEEN GATHERED...
BUT ALL MY GUARDS AND SERVANTS WANT TO STAY, TOO!
HOLY MOLEY! YOU OLD FOGIES ALL REFUSE TO LEAVE? BUT THE WALLS ARE READY TO CRASH AROUND YOUR EARS!

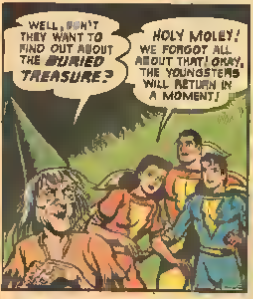

WELL, I GUESS THERE'S ONLY ONE THING TO DO— FIX UP THE CASTLE FOR THEM!

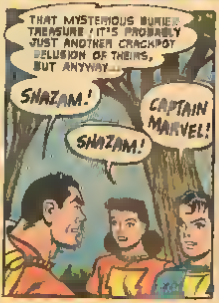

WORKING SWIFTLY, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST FAMILY SOON BOLSTERS UP THE AGED CASTLE!
IT'LL BE A MAKESHIFT JOB AT BEST, BUT AT LEAST THIS OLD WRECK WON'T THREATEN TO FALL APART EVERY TIME AN ANT TRAMPS ACROSS THE ROOF!

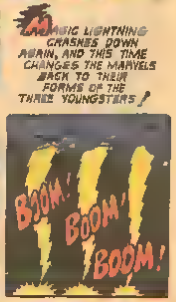
BAH! WHAT A WASTE OF TIME AND LABOR, YOU YOUNG FOOL! THERE IS NO NEED FOR THIS! EVEN MY CASTLE WILL SOON BE AS STURDY AND NEW AS THE DAY IT WAS BUILT!
YES, BARON! OF COURSE!

GOT TO HUMOR THE OLD GOAT! HE'S STILL HARPING AWAY AT THAT CRAZY IDEA OF HIM AND HIS CASTLE REJUVENATING THEMSELVES! WELL, WE'LL REPORT ALL THIS TO THE AUTHORITIES AND LET THEM DECIDE WHAT TO DO ABOUT THESE STUBBORN OLD PEOPLE!

JOB'S DONE! WE'LL LEAVE NOW!
BUT WAIT! WHAT ABOUT THOSE NICE YOUNGSTERS WHO WERE HERE BEFORE? WON'T THEY COME BACK? THEY MUST COME BACK!
BUT WHY?

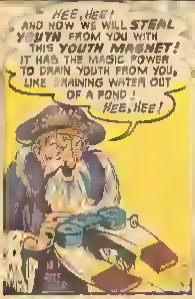

WELL, DON'T THEY WANT TO FIND OUT ABOUT THE BURIED TREASURE?
HOLY MOLEY! WE FORGOT ALL ABOUT THAT! OKAY, THE YOUNGSTERS WILL RETURN IN A MOMENT!

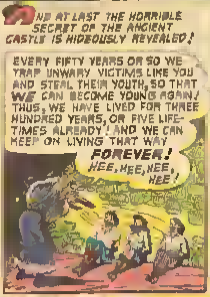

THAT MYSTERIOUS BURIED TREASURE! IT'S PROBABLY JUST ANOTHER CRACKPOT DELUSION OF THEIRS, BUT ANYWAY...
SHAZAM!
CAPTAIN MARVEL!
SHAZAM!

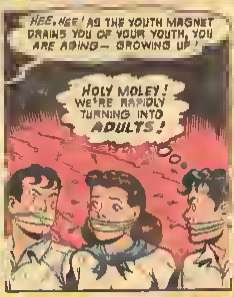

MAGIC LIGHTNING CRASHES DOWN AGAIN, AND THIS TIME CHANGES THE MARVELS BACK TO THEIR FORMS OF THE THREE YOUNGSTERS!
BOOM!
BOOM!
BOOM!

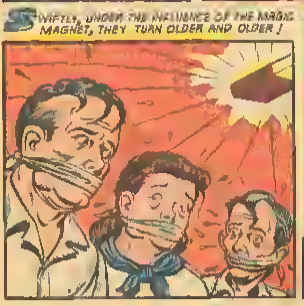
WE'LL JUST SAY GOODBYE AND—UGGGG!
AH, THE KIDS AGAIN! KNOCK THEM OUT!
BOOM
CRUNCH

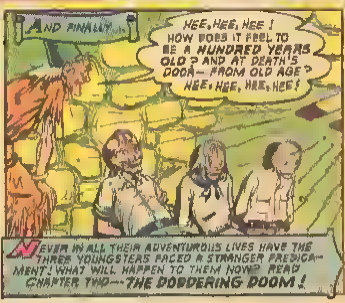
NOW READING GRATEFULLY BEHIND THE YOUNGSTERS FIND THEMSELVES HELPLESS TRAPPED!
HEE, HEE! FOOLS, THERE IS NO BURIED TREASURE! THAT WAS JUST PART OF OUR SYSTEM OF TRAPS TO LURE VICTIMS INTO OUR HANDS!

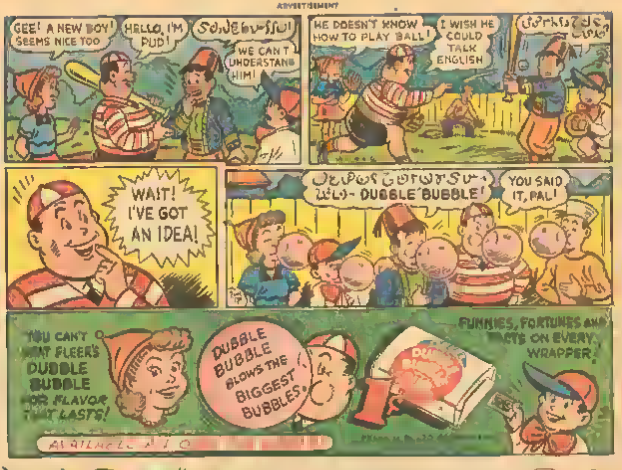

HEE, HEE! AND NOW WE WILL STEAL YOUTH FROM YOU WITH THIS YOUTH MAGNET! IT HAS THE MAGIC POWER TO DRAIN YOUTH FROM YOU, LIKE DRAINING WATER OUT OF A POND! HEE, HEE!


AND AT LAST THE HORRIBLE SECRET OF THE ANCIENT CASTLE IS HIDEOUSLY REVEALED!
EVERY FIFTY YEARS OR SO WE TRAP UNWARY VICTIMS LIKE YOU AND STEAL THEIR YOUTH, SO THAT WE CAN BECOME YOUNG AGAIN! THUS, WE HAVE LIVED FOR THREE HUNDRED YEARS, OR FIVE LIFE-TIMES ALREADY! AND WE CAN KEEP ON LIVING THAT WAY FOREVER! HEE, HEE, HEE, HEE!


HEE, HEE! AS THE YOUTH MAGNET DRAINS YOU OF YOUR YOUTH, YOU ARE AGING— GROWING UP!
HOLY MOLEY! WE'RE RAPIDLY TURNING INTO ADULTS!


SWIFTLY, UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF THE MAGIC MAGNET, THEY TURN OLDER AND OLDER!


AND FINALLY...
HEE, HEE, HEE! HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE A HUNDRED YEARS OLD? AND AT DEATH'S DOOR— FROM OLD AGE? HEE, HEE, HEE, HEE!
NEVER IN ALL THEIR ADVENTUROUS LIVES HAVE THE THREE YOUNGSTERS FACED A STRANGER PREDICAMENT! WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THEM NOW? READ CHAPTER TWO—THE DOODDERING DOOM!


GEE! A NEW BOY! SEEMS NICE TOO
HELLO, I'M PUD!
WE CAN'T UNDERSTAND HIM!
HE DOESN'T KNOW HOW TO PLAY BALL!
I WISH HE COULD TALK ENGLISH
WAIT! I'VE GOT AN IDEA!
YOU SAID IT, PAL!
YOU CAN'T BEAT FLEER'S DUBBLE BUBBLE FOR FLAVOR THAT LASTS!
DUBBLE BUBBLE BLOWS THE BIGGEST BUBBLES!
FUNNIES, FORTUNES AND ETS ON EVERY WRAPPER!

BOYS! GIRLS! LOOK!
Get this
24 K GOLD-PLATED
"GOOD LUCK" RING
with YOUR OWN INITIALS!
AND THE BEST TASTING COUGH DROPS, TOO!
SMITH BROTHERS COUGH DROPS
BIG! AMAZING VALUE! NEVER BEFORE OFFERED!
GLEAMING
MASSIVE! EVERY RING MADE TO ORDER!!
FITS ANY FINGER!
LIMITED SUPPLY! HURRY!
EASY TO GET! LUCKY TO WEAR!
Yes, it's lucky to wear a ring with your own initials! And everyone will ask "Where did you get it?" —when they see your beautiful big gold plated ring with your own initials in massive letters! And what a value—only 25¢, plus front panel of any Smith Bros. box. Limited supply—hurry!
ONLY 25¢
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Send to SMITH BROTHERS, Box 424, Providence, R. I.
I am enclosing 25¢ plus the front panel of one 5¢ or 10¢ box, any flavor for which please send me the "Good Luck" Ring with my initials,
Name (PLEASE PRINT WITH PENCIL)
Address
City Zone State
Initials for Ring (FIRST) (LAST)
Send to Smith Bros., P.O. Box 424, Providence, R.I.

TOMB TIME

By John Martin

KAG PEGGOT slithered down the hall of the expensive apartment house His pinched wan face was gray under the bright glare of the fluorescents. He thought of Lou Herrin who had been the dead "Tricks" Morton's right hand man—and how Lou was enjoying life now. He remembered, with hatred, that Lou had been responsible for framing him

He gulped hungrily, for, since he'd completed his stretch at State Prison that morning he hadn't eaten much His money had gone for clothes—and a gun.

Kag stepped up to the apartment door, rang the bell He drew his gun out of his pocket, held it close against his chest Then he waited

There were footsteps, slow, almost lazy Kag's heart began pounding Then the door opened

'Kag Paggot!"

Kag smiled into Lou Herrin's terror stricken face Lou retreated before the pointed gun. The door closed behind them both.

"You alone, Lou?" Kag asked, his eyes staring about the luxurious apartment

"Nobody's here," Herrin quavered "I was spending the evening home alone"

"Sit down, Lou," Kag said, indicating a couch.

'Now—now, don't get me wrong,' Lou said, "You got to listen to me, Kag!'

'I'll listen, Lou, Kag said

"I—I guess I forgot how long you were in, Kag," Herrin said nervously

"I guess you did, Lou," Kag replied "I'm surprised though, you forgot After all, you framed me"

I didn't frame you Kag! I . . ."

"Shut up you weasel! You did!"

Lou Herrin crumbled visibly. "Now take it easy Kag Maybe we all made mistakes. But whatever I did was on Tricks Morton's orders'

"Tricks always was a good boss, wasn't he?" Kag mused sarcastically 'Always ready to send a friend to the big house if he could stay out himself He looked at the apartment "He must have left you pretty well fixed, Lou after he died.'

"Yeah—I took over the mob But we're all split up now, Kag I'm retired"

'What happened to Tricks—after he was killed?"

"Buried," Herrin said "Out in Greenhill Cemetery" He paused The boys and I paid for a tomb."

Kag stood up He trained the gun on Lou's heart 'Where do you keep your dough, Lou?" he asked softly 'You must have plenty to judge by this layout"

'I don't keep it in banks," Herrin said and then he bit his lips

Kag laughed 'Gave yourself away, didn't you, Lou? Keep it in the house then? You always were a great one for hiding your dough so Uncle Sam couldn't check on it for income taxes"

"It—it isn't in the apartment, Kag,' Herrin said, watching the gun. "It's stashed out in Tricks' tomb!"

Kag sneered 'You think you're making it hard for me, eh, Lou? Thinking maybe if I believe you, I'll leave . . ."

"It—it's there, so help me, Kag," Lou gasped "It was the only safe place I could think of!"

'There must be a couple of hundred thousand,' Kag mused 'First we'll see whether you're lying"

Kag forced Lou ahead of him on a search of the apartment He soon satisfied himself that there were no safes in the walls or anywhere else With Herrin's keys, Kag unlocked Herrin's desk, went through his papers. There was no bank book, either

You must have buried it in Tricks' tomb," he said finally "Where's the tomb located in the cemetery, Lou?"

Lou told him, trembling

Kag jingled the keys he'd snatched from Lou 'Think I'll visit the tomb tonight, Lou," he said And get my share.' He grinned maliciously

'Sure you aren't—aren't afraid of ghosts, Kag?" Lou Herrin asked desperately

Kag went white He knew, instantly, that Lou, in an effort to protect his money was playing on his fears Fear that had once been a joke in the underworld, because Kag believed in ghosts.

"I'm not afraid of any ghost, Lou," Kag said with an attempt at a sickly smile. His lips

were thinly compressed

"Who—whose, Kag?" Lou asked.

Kag shoved the gun against Lou's heart and fired

"Yours, Lou," he said, as Herrin sagged to the floor. An instant later he was at the door. "No one saw me come in, Lou. And nobody'll see me leave. I'm screaming now. And I'm going to get *all* your dough! Give my regards to Tricks Morton when you get where you're going!"

Then the door slammed behind him.

With Herrin's keys in his pocket Kag used the last of his money for carfare out to Greenhill Cemetery. It was beyond the city proper though still within the city limits, in an area with almost no houses and few street lights.

A bus left him a few hundred yards from the cemetery entrance. A six-foot stone fence, he noted, edged the great expanse of graves and tombs. Kag walked into the darkness of the clustered trees, away from the entrance, where a light burned in the cemetery keeper's stone cottage. His heart began pounding again as he scaled the stone wall and dropped into the deserted stillness of headstones and mausoleums softly glowing in the witch-light of the rising moon.

A lump rose in Kag's throat. He was alone again—alone in a world of the dead. Shaking, trembling, with only the prize of several hundred thousand dollars driving him on, he dodged from tree to tree along the narrow, gravel paths. He came to a direction sign: K Lane. Kag knew that M Lane wasn't far ahead.

Listening nervously to the small, fugitive sounds of the night, he hurried on. Then he saw Tricks Morton's tomb.

The tomb itself was a large construction of white granite glowing in the moonshine like a tiny Greek temple. Over the door was Morton's name.

Breathing hard, Kag approached it warily, drawing Herrin's keys from his pocket. It was an effort to force himself to edge up to the great portal. Behind that door, he realized, lay Tricks Morton, dead, but . . . Kag shuddered.

Then he sank against the icy metal and began feeling for the lock. When he found it, he inserted key after key. At last one turned the cylinder. Kag took a deep breath and pushed. The door swung open slowly, its hinges creaking hollowly, echoing and re-echoing in the black depths before him.

Kag gasped as the door loomed to a halt. He tried to scream, but couldn't. His blood froze. Not three yards from him, directly in the center of the tomb, a tall, sheeted white object loomed up out of the darkness. Kag teetered, his heart exploding. Then madness burst like a bomb in his brain and he ran, finding his voice at last, screaming, moaning nameless fears.

It was at the cemetery gates, his cries zipping through the silence of the night, that Kag ran into the arms of a cemetery guard. The guard pinioned him quickly, dragged him to the caretaker's cottage, phoned the police.

Half an hour later, at the nearest precinct, Detective Sam Werner listened to Kag Peggot, now a shivering, terrified wreck, his mind almost gone, babble out his story.

"Yeah, yeah," Werner said wearily. "You want to confess. I know. It's the third time you've told me the same story. You sound like a busted record. You get sprung from jail, you kill a guy named Lou Herrin and break into Morton's tomb, trying to get some dough you claim Herrin hid there. And now you're telling me you saw Morton's ghost."

"I did. I did," Peggot mumbled desperately. "That's why I know I can't hide any more. I want protection. I'll confess everything if only you'll get me where I'll be safe from Herrin and Morton!"

Werner looked up questioningly at the cemetery guard.

"I can't figure it," the guard said. "In the first place, Tricks Morton isn't even buried in the tomb yet!"

"Yair?" Kag squeaked, grey-faced.

"MORTON was buried temporarily in a grave until Herrin had that tomb built a month ago," the guard said. "Nobody knew why he wanted to waste dough that way. But your story of his hiding a fortune there makes sense out of it.

"Uncle Sam will look into that angle of it," Werner said. "But this ghost yarn makes no sense at all."

"I saw it, I tell you!" Kag screamed. "There he was, rising up tall and white, and—and horrible!"

"That wasn't a ghost," the guard said suddenly. "Herrin had some workmen in there yesterday, installing something. I guess it must have been a disguised safe. I had a look at the tomb before we came over here to the police station, and that tall white thing is just a piece of canvas draped over a scaffolding ladder!"

THE END

WEATHER: COOL TODAY HOT TAMALE!

The Gazabo Gazette

PRICE: ANYTHING WE CAN GET

★ ★ ★ ★ VOL NO 1 PAGE 1

HEADLINE HARRY

AND "THE BIG BOUNCE!"

DO YOU CAN E BACK AT LAST HEADLINE HARRY I'VE BEEN HOLE NOLD OF THE PRE ! HWY TO ANY SEW FOR THE ATER

THE GAZABO GAZETTE IS PROUD TO HAVE HEADLINE HARRY REPORTER

ER GUDE BOYS LOTS OF AMAZING GOOPS

THAT'S GOOD NEWS TO MY EARS START RATTLING IT OFF TO ME.

OKAY CHIEF HERE GOES!

THE FIRST ITEM IS ABOUT A **MUTE WAGON-MAKER!**

A MUTE WAGON MAKER? WHAT ABOUT HIM?

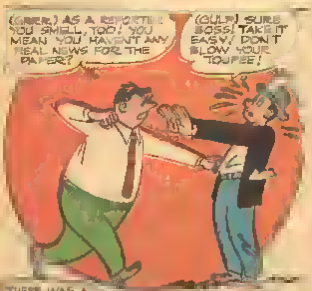
HE PICKED UP A HUB AND SPOKE!

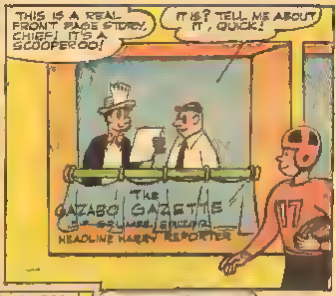
!!!

(GRRRR) IS THAT ALL THE NEWS YOU HAVE?

ER ER NO BOSS! SIT DOWN I'VE PLENTY MORE!

THIS NEXT ITEM IS ANOTHER BELIEVE-IT-OR-NOT PISCE OF HEADLINE NEWS!
OH, YEAH! WHAT IS IT?
A BLIND CARPENTER PICKED UP A HAMMER AND SAW!
GROAN
(GRRR) LISTEN, HEADLINE HARRY, I'M WARNING YOU!
QUIET, BOSS, THIS NEXT ONE IS JUST AS AMAZING!
THIS ONE CONCERNS A DEAF SHEEP RANCHER!
A DEAF SHEEP RANCHER?
YES! HE WENT OUT WITH HIS DOG AND HERD!
!!!
AND THIS LAST ITEM IS PERHAPS THE MOST INCREDIBLE OF ALL! IT'S ABOUT A NOSELESS FISHERMAN!
WHAT A NOSELESS FISHERMAN?
YEP! LISTEN TO THIS! THE NOSELESS FISHERMAN CAUGHT A BARREL OF HERRING AND SMELT!
GROAN!


(GRRR.) AS A REPORTER YOU SMELL TOO! YOU MEAN YOU HAVEN'T ANY REAL NEWS FOR THE PAPER?
(GULP) SURE BOSS! TAKE IT EASY! DON'T BLOW YOUR TOUPEE!

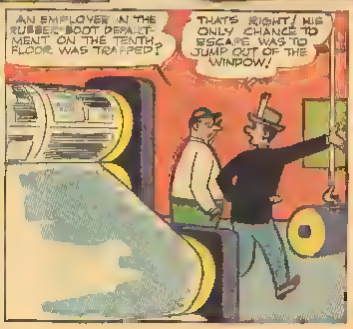

THIS IS A REAL FRONT PAGE STORY, CHIEF! IT'S A SCOOPEROO!
IT IS? TELL ME ABOUT IT, QUICK!
THE GAZABO GAZETTE
HEADLINE HARRY REPORTER

THERE WAS A TREMENDOUS FIRE AT THE BIG RUBBER COMPANY IN THE SUBURBS ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO!
ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO BUT I DON'T HEAR ANYTHING ABOUT IT,
?
?
?

I KNOW, IT WAS KEPT VERY HUSH-HUSH BUT I UNCOVERED THE FACTS!
GOOD FOR YOU, HEADLINE HARRY! THIS SOUNDS TERRIFIC! DO YOU HAVE THE DETAILS?

I SURE DO! I HAVE THE WHOLE STORY AND IT WILL AMAZE YOU!
AMAZE ME?

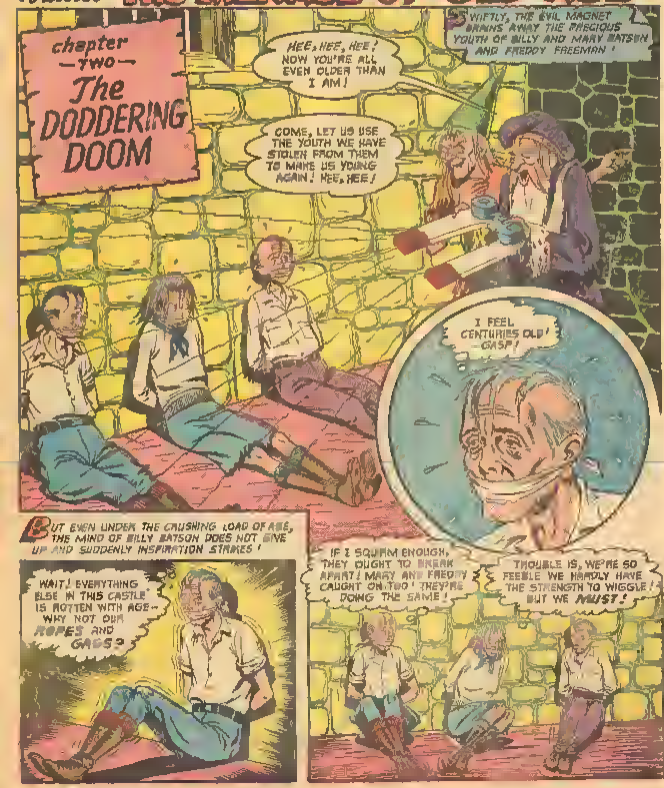
IT SURE WILL! WAIT 'TILL YOU HEAR THIS! WHILE THE BIG FACTORY WAS BURNING ONE OF THE WORKERS IN THE RUBBER-BOOT DEPARTMENT ON THE TENTH FLOOR WAS TRAPPED!

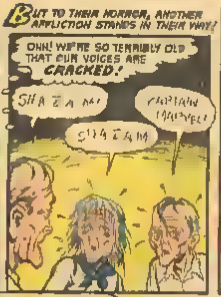

AN EMPLOYEE IN THE RUBBER-BOOT DEPARTMENT ON THE TENTH FLOOR WAS TRAPPED?
THAT'S RIGHT! HIS ONLY CHANCE TO ESCAPE WAS TO JUMP OUT OF THE WINDOW!

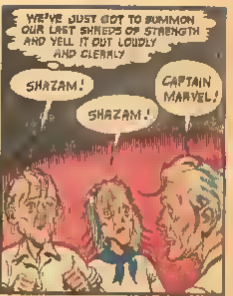
BUT TO JUMP TEN STORIES WAS CERTAIN DEATH! BUT HE GOT A GREAT IDEA.
WHAT WAS THAT?
HE STEPPED INTO A PAIR OF RUBBER BOOTS AND THEN ANOTHER, AND THEN ANOTHER AND ANOTHER, EACH A SIZE LARGER, UNTIL HE HAD ON TWENTY PAIRS!
HE WAS WEARING TWENTY PAIRS OF BOOTS?
THAT'S RIGHT! AND HE JUMPED FROM THE WINDOW OF THE TENTH FLOOR TO THE SIDEWALK BELOW!
WHAT HAPPENED?
THE FIRST TIME HE LANDED ON THE GROUND, HE BOUNCED EIGHTEEN HUNDRED FEET IN THE AIR!
(GASP) HE BOUNCED EIGHTEEN HUNDRED FEET INTO THE AIR!
YEP! AND HE CONTINUED TO BOUNCE FOR TEN MORE DAYS AND STILL DIDN'T STOP!
TSK, TSK! WHAT FINALLY HAPPENED?
THE MAYOR HAD TO ORDER HIM SHOT TO PREVENT HIM FROM STARVING TO DEATH!
GASP!
WHAM
OUCH!
(GRRR) I'LL TEACH YOU TO TRY AND HAND ME A PHONY STORY LIKE THAT FOR THE PAPER. I'M FIRING YOU FROM YOUR JOB. YOU'RE FIRED!

THE MARVEL FAMILY

battles The MENACE of OLD AGE

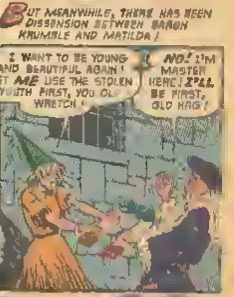

chapter —two— The DODDERING DOOM
HEE, HEE, HEE! NOW YOU'RE ALL EVEN OLDER THAN I AM!
COME, LET US USE THE YOUTH WE HAVE STOLEN FROM THEM TO MAKE US YOUNG AGAIN! HEE, HEE!
SWIFTLY, THE EVIL MAGNET BRANDS AWAY THE PRECIOUS YOUTH OF BILLY AND MARY BATSON AND FREDDY FREEMAN!
I FEEL CENTURIES OLD! —GASP!
BUT EVEN UNDER THE CRUSHING LOAD OF AGE, THE MIND OF BILLY BATSON DOES NOT GIVE UP AND SUDDENLY INSPIRATION STRIKES!
WAIT! EVERYTHING ELSE IN THIS CASTLE IS ROTTEN WITH AGE— WHY NOT OUR ROPES AND CAPES?
IF I SQUIRM ENOUGH, THEY OUGHT TO BREAK APART! MARY AND FREDDY CAUGHT ON TWO! THEY'RE DOING THE SAME!
TROUBLE IS, WE'RE SO FEEBLE WE HARDLY HAVE THE STRENGTH TO WIGGLE! BUT WE MUST!


BUT TO THEIR HORROR, ANOTHER AFFLICTION STRIKES IN THEIR WAY!
OHH! WE'RE SO TERRIBLY OLD THAT OUR VOICES ARE CRACKED!
SHA ZA AA!
CAPTAIN MARVEL!
SHAZAM



AT LAST MAGIC LIGHTNING ARRIVES, TO CHANGE THEM INTO THE STRONG YOUNG FORMS OF CAPTAIN MARVEL, MART MARVEL, AND CAPTAIN MARVEL JR.!

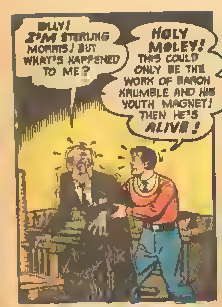
BUT MEANWHILE, THERE HAS BEEN DISSENSION BETWEEN BARON KRUMBLE AND MATILDA!

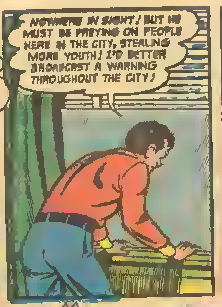

I WANT TO BE YOUNG AND BEAUTIFUL AGAIN! LET ME USE THE STOLEN YOUTH FIRST, YOU OLD WRETCH!
NO! I'M MASTER HERE! I'LL BE FIRST, OLD HAG!

I SEE THE YOUTH MAGNET HAS A SIMPLE REVERSE ON IT, WHICH WILL RELEASE ITS STORED-UP YOUTH! WE'LL QUICKLY USE IT ON THE KIDS—
SHAZAM!
CAPTAIN MARVEL!
SHAZAM!

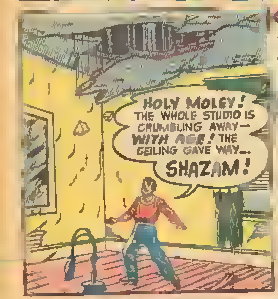
THE THREE "YOUNGSTERS" TAKE BACK THEIR PILFERED YOUTH!
ALL RIGHT, BILLY! WE'RE BACK TO NORMAL! NOW LET'S USE IT ON YOU!
BUT JUST AS THE YOUNGSTERS FINISH...
GIVE ME THAT!
HURRY— SHAZAM!
CAPTAIN MARVEL!
SHAZAM!
BOOM!
THE MARVEL FAMILY IS BACK IN ACTION, ONLY TO MEET GUNNING AGAIN FROM THE EVIL OLDSTERS!
DON'T YOU DARE STRIKE A POOR OLD HELPLESS HAG LIKE ME! RUN WITH THE YOUTH MAGNET, BARON! I'LL STOP THEM!
???
HURRY, AFTER THE BARON— OMIGOSH!
ALL OF YOU— GRAB THEM! HOLD TIGHT! WE MAY BE TOO OLD AND FEEBLE TO FIGHT THESE THREE POWERFUL MARVELS...
BUT IF THEY TRY TO SHAKE US OFF, THEY'LL HURT OR KILL US!
ULPS! DON'T MOVE! NO MATTER HOW WICKED THEY ARE, WE CAN'T HARM THESE OLD CREATURES!
DESPITE THEIR TERRIFIC POWER, THE MARVEL FAMILY IS HELD HELPLESS BY FEEBLE OLD PEOPLE WHO COULDN'T HURT A FLY!
BUT AT LAST, BY EASY STAGES...
WE GENTLY SQUIRMED LOOSE! AFTER THE BARON!
HE HAD TIME TO RUN OUT OF THE CASTLE! BUT LISTEN—
EEEAAA!
GOSH, THAT OLD DUFFER MUST HAVE STUMBLED INTO THIS CHASM! HE HIT BOTTOM ALREADY!
HOW HORRIBLE, IT'S TOO LATE TO SAVE HIM, BUT I'LL TRY TO RECOVER HIS BODY!

IT'S A THOUSAND FEET DEEP! I COULDN'T EVEN FIND HIS BODY OR THE YOUTH MAGNET! GUESS THEY SMASHED TO BITS! IT'S THE END OF BARON MUNMBLE AND HIS HORRIBLE MAGIC MAGNET!
'SOB' WAILLL! YBOWLLL! BARON! BARON! AND THE YOUTH MAGNET-GONE!
LET'S GO! THESE PEOPLE CAN'T DO ANY MORE HARM!
BUT AFTER THE MARVEL FAMILY LEAVES Metro...
ALL RIGHT, BARON! COME FORTH NOW! THAT WAS CUNNING OF YOU TO SCREAM AND PRETEND TO FALL! HEE, HEE!
HEE, HEE! YES, AND IT WAS SMART OF YOU TO CATCH ON AND PUT ON YOUR ACT! HEE, HEE! US CUNNING OLDSTERS CAN STILL OUTWIT YOUNG WHIPPER-SNAPPERS LIKE THAT! HEE, HEE, HEE!
BUT OUR TRAPS ONLY CAUGHT THREE KIDS IN THE LAST YEAR! WE'D BETTER GO TO THE CITY AND STEAL AS MUCH YOUTH AS WE CAN! HEE, HEE!
YES! BESIDES, WE MUST RESTORE OUR CASTLE TO NEWNESS, TOO, BY STEALING YOUTH FROM CITY BUILDINGS! HEE!
MEANWHILE, BACK IN THE CITY, BILLY BATSON HAS RESUMED HIS NORMAL LIFE AS BOY NEWSCASTER AT STATION WHIZ!
...AND THAT, FOLKS, IS THE STRANGE TALE OF BARON MUNMBLE! WE CAN THANK OUR STARS THAT HE AND HIS FRIGHTFUL YOUTH MAGNET ARE GONE!
WHIZ
I'LL ASK MY BOSS HOW HE LINED THAT AMAZING BROADCAST!
PRIVA
STARLING MORROW PRESIDENT STATION WHIZ
OH, PARDON ME, SIR! WHERE'S MR MORROW?

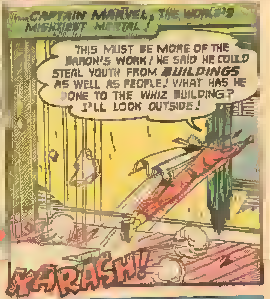

BILLY! I'M STERLING MORRIS! BUT WHAT'S HAPPENED TO ME?
HOLY MOLEY! THIS COULD ONLY BE THE WORK OF BARON KRUMBLE AND HIS YOUTH MAGNET! THEN HE'S ALIVE!


NOTHING IN SIGHT! BUT HE MUST BE PREYING ON PEOPLE HERE IN THE CITY, STEALING MORE YOUTH! I'D BETTER BROADCAST A WARNING THROUGHOUT THE CITY!

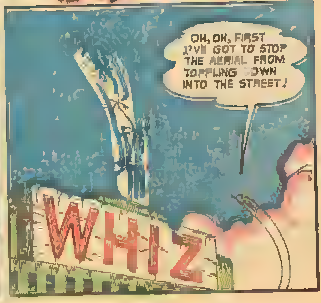
HEY, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH THIS MIKE?


HOLY MOLEY! THE WHOLE STUDIO IS CRUMBLING AWAY— WITH AGE! THE CEILING GAVE WAY...
SHAZAM!

MAGIC LIGHTNING THUNDERS DOWN AND BILLY ONCE MORE ASSUMES HIS OTHER IDENTITY OF....
BLAM!

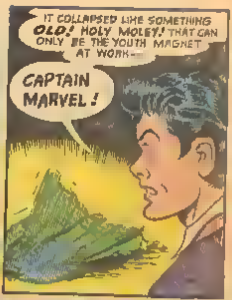

CAPTAIN MARVEL, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL!
THIS MUST BE MORE OF THE BARON'S WORK! HE SAID HE COULD STEAL YOUTH FROM BUILDINGS AS WELL AS PEOPLE! WHAT HAS HE DONE TO THE WHIZ BUILDING? I'LL LOOK OUTSIDE!
CRASH!

GASP! THE WHOLE WHIZ BUILDING LOOKS LIKE AN ANCIENT STRUCTURE A THOUSAND YEARS OLD! THE BARON MUST BE WORKING WITH HIS MAGNET NEARBY! I'LL FIND HIM AND GRAB HIM!


OH, OK, FIRST I'VE GOT TO STOP THE AERIAL FROM TOPPLING DOWN INTO THE STREET!
WHIZ

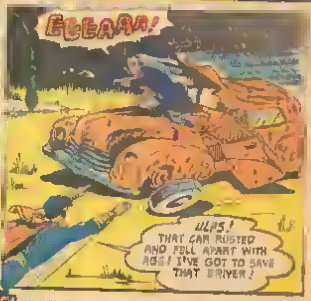
WITH CAPTAIN MARVEL SLAYED, TWO EVIL SOULS LEAVE THE SCENE!
HEE, HEE! WE'LL STEAL YOUTH FROM THE CITY NIGHT AND LEFT!
AND AS WE STEAL YOUTH, WE LEAVE EVERYTHING IN A STATE OF OLD AGE!
HEE, HEE!

SOON, AT THE NEWSSTAND OF FREDDY FREEMAN....
YIPES! WHAT'S HAPPENING TO MY NEWSSTAND?


IT COLLAPSED LIKE SOMETHING OLD! HOLY MOLEY! THAT CAN ONLY BE THE YOUTH MAGNET AT WORK—
CAPTAIN MARVEL!

MAGIC LIGHTNING CHANGES FREDDY FREEMAN INTO—
CRASH!

CAPTAIN MARVEL JR., THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST BOY!
THEN THE BARON DIDN'T DIE! HE'S STEALING YOUTH FROM THE CITY! THAT OLD WRETCH MUST BE NEARBY!

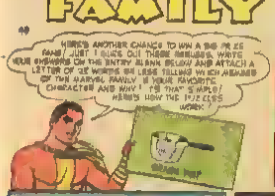

EEEAAA!
ULP! THAT CAR RUSTED AND FELL APART WITH AGE! I'VE GOT TO SAVE THAT DRIVER!

MORE YOUTH! GRAB MORE—MORE! LET'S LAY IN A SUPPLY FOR THE NEXT THOUSAND YEARS! HEE, HEE, HEE!
LET'S STEAL ENOUGH FOR TWO THOUSAND YEARS! HEE, HEE!

AND WHERE MARY BATSON CLERKS PART-TIME IN A DRESS SHOP....
NOW TAKE THIS SMART NEW GOWN, MADAM.
EEK!
WHY, THAT'S NOTHING BUT AN OLD RAG!

OH HEAVENS! ALL THE STOCK TURNED OLD! ONLY THE YOUTH MAGNET COULD DO THAT!
SHAZAM!
KRASH!
...MARY MARVEL, THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST GIRL!
THEN BARON KRUMBLE MUST STILL BE ALIVE, STARING AT THE CITY! I'LL GET AFTER HIM -- SHIFT! SMOKE!
HOLY MOLEY! LIKE ANY OLD RAGE, THEY SMOULDERED INTO FIRE!
AND SO THE WHOLE CLOISTERS CONTINUE THEIR FOLLY, LOSING THE CITY OF SOMETHING FAR MORE PRECIOUS THAN ALL ITS WEALTH AND WEALTH -- ITS YOUTH!
HEE! BEFORE WE'RE THROUGH, THE CITY WILL LOOK LIKE ANCIENT PREHISTORIC RUINS!
AND ALL THE PEOPLE IN IT WILL BE A HUNDRED YEARS OLD! HEE, HEE!
SOON, AS THE FRANTIC MARVEL FAMILY ONCE MORE MEETS HIGH ABOVE THE CITY
BARON KRUMBLE IS ALIVE AND AT WORK WITH THE YOUTH MAGNET!
JUST LOOK AT THE CITY BELOW! HOW FRIGHTFUL!
HOLY MOLEY! BEFORE LONG, THE WHOLE CITY WILL CRUMBLE AWAY INTO WORTHLESS RUINS!
EVERYBODY IN THE CITY HAS BEEN ROBBED OF YOUTH, TOO! WE'VE GOT TO FIND BARON KRUMBLE AND REVERSE HIS YOUTH MAGNET!
AS WE STRUGGLE BY SOME HIDEOUS CURSE, THE CITY AND ALL ITS MODERN SPARKLE LIE SMOTHERED IN AGE! CAN EVEN THE MARVEL FAMILY DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT? READ chapter THREE -- THE HORRY HORROR!

THE MARVEL FAMILY PUZZLE CONTEST


HERE'S ANOTHER CHANCE TO WIN A BIG PRIZE GANG! JUST FILL OUT THESE RIDDLES, WRITE YOUR ANSWERS ON THE ENTRY BLANK BELOW AND ATTACH A LETTER OF 25 WORDS OR LESS TELLING WHICH MEMBER OF THE MARVEL FAMILY IS YOUR FAVORITE CHARACTER AND WHY! I'LL TELL YOU MORE ABOUT IT LATER!
GRAB THAT PAPER!

$25 IN CASH PRIZES!

FIRST PRIZE	$10.00
SECOND PRIZE	$5.00
THIRD PRIZE	$3.00
FOURTH TO TENTH PRIZES	$1.00

HERE ARE THE SIMPLE RULES:

1. Contest closes Feb. 22, 1953. No entry will be honored if postmarked later than this date.

2. Each entry must be accompanied by the coupon at the bottom of this page. Fill in your answers on the coupon and be sure you mail it to the proper address as listed on the coupon.

3. Neatness will not be a consideration in judging the contest but entries must be legible to be considered. Skill in solving the puzzles and in telling which member of the Marvel Family is your favorite character will be the most important factors in awarding the prizes.

4. Anyone in the U. S. or its possessions may enter the contest except employees of Fawcett Publications or members of their families.

5. All entries become the property of Fawcett Publications, Inc.

6. In case of a tie duplicate prizes will be awarded the winners.

7. The editor of this magazine will be the sole judge of the contest and their decisions will be final.

WATCH FOR NEXT MONTH'S CONTEST! MORE AND MORE PRIZES TO WIN!

The winners of this month's contest will be announced in the Aug. 1953 issue of The Marvel Family.

Here are the answers to last month's puzzles:
1. Falloon!! 2. Birdbrain! 3. Manhattan 4. Insomniac 5. Beatrice

OFFICIAL ENTRY BLANK NO. 2

My answers to the puzzles are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Name _____ Age _____

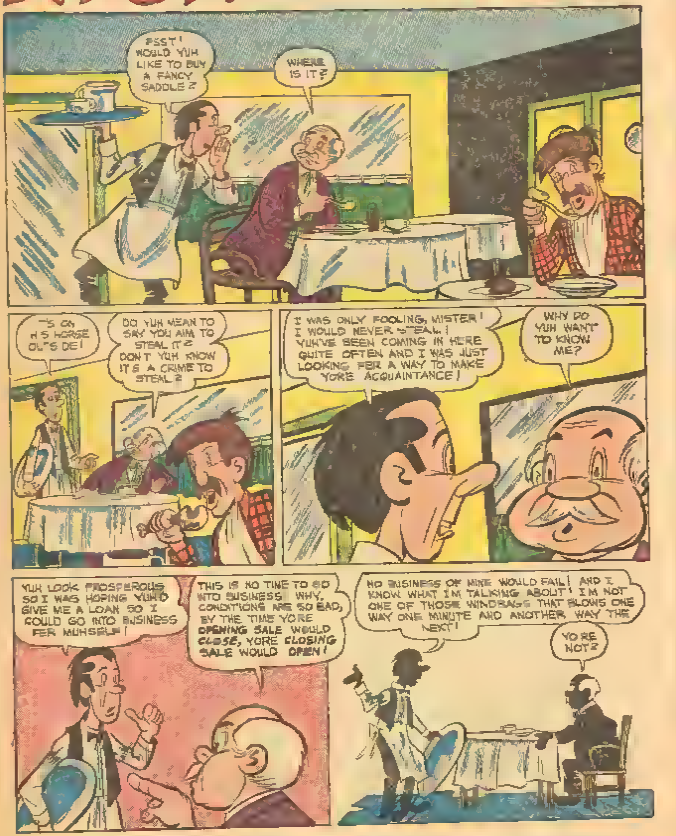
Address _____

City _____ Zone _____ State _____

Mail to:
The Judges
The Marvel Family Puzzle Contest
Fawcett Place, Greenwich, Conn.

Be sure to attach your letter of 25 words or less telling which member of the Marvel Family is your favorite character and why!

NICK AND DICK


PSST! WOULD YUH LIKE TO BUY A FANCY SADDLE?
WHERE IS IT?
-S GA N'S HORSE OL'S DE!
DO YUH MEAN TO SAY YOU AIM TO STEAL IT?
DON'T YUH KNOW IT'S A CRIME TO STEAL?
I WAS ONLY FOOLING, MISTER! I WOULD NEVER STEAL! YUH'VE BEEN COMING IN HERE QUITE OFTEN AND I WAS JUST LOOKING FER A WAY TO MAKE YORE ACQUAINTANCE!
WHY DO YUH WANT TO KNOW ME?
YUH LOOK PROSPEROUS SO I WAS HOPING YUH'D GIVE ME A LOAN SO I COULD GO INTO BUSINESS FER MUHSELF!
THIS IS NO TIME TO GO INTO BUSINESS! WHY, CONDITIONS ARE SO BAD, BY THE TIME YORE OPENING SALE WOULD CLOSE, YORE CLOSING SALE WOULD OPEN!
NO BUSINESS OF MINE WOULD FAIL! AND I KNOW WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT! I'M NOT ONE OF THOSE WINDBAGS THAT BLOWS ONE WAY ONE MINUTE AND ANOTHER WAY THE NEXT!
YO'RE HOT?

NO I BLOW ONE WAY ALL THE TIME!
I DON'T REALLY KNOW YUH, BUT YUH IMPRESS ME AS THE KIND OF GUY I'D USE AS A BLUEPRINT IF I WERE TRYING TO BUILD AN IDIOT!
THAT'S NO WAY TO TALK TO AN HOMBRE WHO CAN GET ANYTHING HE WANTS!
IF YUH ASK ME, THE ONLY THING YUH CAN GET IS CONFUSED!
I'LL HAVE YUH KNOW I'M A VERY ADVANCED TYPE OF CRITTER, WHY, I FLY BY INSTRUMENTS!
YUH WOULD BE BETTER OFF IF YUH FLEW BY PLANE!
THAT'S WHAT I MEANT! NOT ONLY DO I FLY AN AIRPLANE, BUT I INVENTED A TWO-MOTOR JOB THAT IS THE FIRST WORD IN AIRPLANES!
I KNOW WHAT THE LAST WORD IS!
YEAH? WHAT?
JUMP
IT SO HAPPENS NUH PLANE CARRIED ME TO THE ARCTIC CIRCLE WITHOUT A CRACK-UP!
ARCTIC CIRCLE! WASN'T IT COLD UP THERE?
COLD? THEY HAD THREE KINDS OF WEATHER UP THERE! COLD, COLDER, AND DON'T FALL OUT OF BED OR YUH'LL BREAK YORE PAJAMAS!
DO YUH MEAN EVEN YORE PAJAMAS FROZE UP THERE?

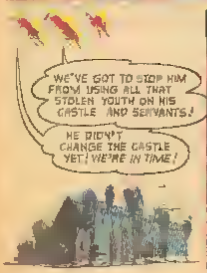
I'LL SAY! IF NUH PLANE HADN'T FLOWN SO FAST OUT OF THERE, I WOULD HAVE BEEN FROZEN MYSELF!
HOW FAST DID YORE PLANE GO?
ONE HUNDRED MILES AN HOUR!
THAT'S NOT FAST! WHY, I INVENTED AN AUTO THAT GOES THREE HUNDRED MILES AN HOUR!
THREE HUNDRED MILES AN HOUR! GEE, I'D LIKE TO GET ONE OF THOSE!
IF YUH WOULD, YUH'D NEED A PUTTY KNIFE, TOO!
A PUTTY KNIFE? WHAT FER?
SO WHEN YUH STOPPED THE CAR, THEY COULD SCRAPE YUH OFF THE WINDSHIELD!
THAT'S NO WAY TO TALK TO AN HOMBRE WHO IS TRYING TO BE YORE FRIEND!
WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE NUH FRIEND?
I LIKE TO HEAR GOSSIP AND I HEARD YUH KNOW EVERYTHING THAT GOES ON AROUND TOWN!
WELL, IF YUH WANT TO KNOW WHAT I KNOW, YUH OUGHT TO DO WHAT I DO!
WHAT DO YUH DO TO GET TO KNOW WHAT YOU KNOW?
I SEND NUH LAUNDRY TO THE TOWN LAUNDRY!

WOW DOES THAT HELP YUH GET ALL THE GOSSIP?
AT THE TOWN LAUNDRY YUH GET ALL THE DIRT!
NOW I'VE GOT TO GET GOING!
JUST FOR THAT I'M NOT GOING TO SING THE COWBOY DRINKING SONG FER YUH!
WHAT'S THE COWBOY DRINKING SONG?
'EMPTY SEIDELS!"
I'VE HAD ENOUGH! I'M LEAVING TOWN!
THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST MORTAL HEADS THE WORLD'S MIGHTIEST CLUB!
JOIN NOW!
CAPTAIN MARVEL
Fawcett Place Greenwich, Conn.
Dear Captain Marvel:
Please enroll me as a member of the growing CAPTAIN MARVEL CLUB. I enclose 10¢ (a coin or stamps) to cover the cost of mailing. Also, I understand that I am to receive my CAPTAIN MARVEL CLUB CARD which carries the secret oath, and the CAPTAIN MARVEL MEMBERSHIP BUTTON along with many other keepsakes.
Street _____ Age _____
Street Address _____
City _____ Zone No. _____ State _____
Please be sure that your request is filled out correctly so that your membership will not be held up!
SEND THIS COUPON IN TODAY!

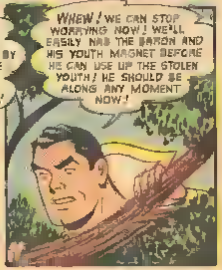
THE MARVEL FAMILY

battles The MENACE of OLD AGE

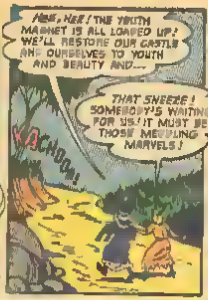
HURRY! THERE'S ONLY ONE PLACE TO CAPTURE BARON KRUMBLE —AT HIS CASTLE!
chapter —THREE— The HOARY HORROR
WITH BARON KRUMBLE'S YOUTH MAGNET HANDS SPREAD OLD AGE OVER THE ENTIRE CITY LIKE A BLIGHT, THE MARVEL FAMILY FACES THE MOST STUNNING PROBLEM OF THEIR CAREERS!


WE'VE GOT TO STOP HIM FROM USING ALL THAT STOLEN YOUTH ON HIS CASTLE AND SERVANTS!
HE DIDN'T CHANGE THE CASTLE YET! WE'RE IN TIME!

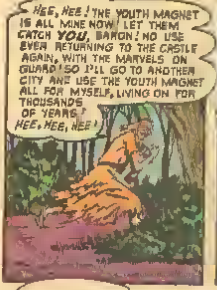
IN FACT, WE'RE AHEAD OF TIME! HE ISN'T HERE YET! WE BEAT HIM BACK!
GOOD! NOW ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS HIDE AND TAKE THE BARON BY SURPRISE WHEN HE COMES! SPLIT UP AND COVER ALL APPROACHES!

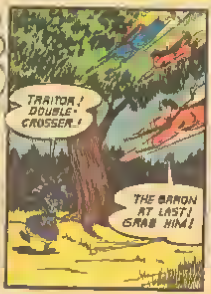

WHEW! WE CAN STOP WORRYING NOW! WE'LL EASILY NAB THE BARON AND HIS YOUTH MAGNET BEFORE HE CAN USE UP THE STOLEN YOUTH! HE SHOULD BE ALONG ANY MOMENT NOW!

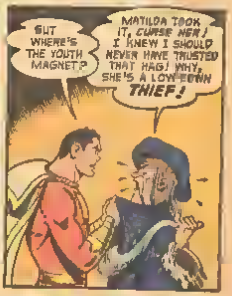
BUT WHERE MARY MARVEL IS CONCEALED—
MY NOSE TICKLES! GOLLY, I—I—
KACHOO

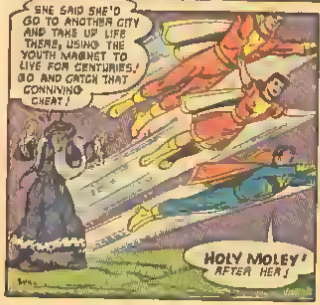

HEE, HEE! THE YOUTH MAGNET IS ALL LOADED UP! WE'LL RESTORE OUR CASTLE AND OURSELVES TO YOUTH AND BEAUTY AND—
THAT SNEEZE! SOMEBODY'S WAITING FOR US! IT MUST BE THOSE MEDDLING MARVELS!
KACHOO!

WE'LL HIDE AND— MATILDA! WHAT—?
LET ME HAVE THE MAGNET, YOU OLD FOOL!


HEE, HEE! THE YOUTH MAGNET IS ALL MINE NOW! LET THEM CATCH YOU, BARON! NO USE EVER RETURNING TO THE CASTLE AGAIN, WITH THE MARVELS ON GUARD! SO I'LL GO TO ANOTHER CITY AND USE THE YOUTH MAGNET ALL FOR MYSELF, LIVING ON FOR THOUSANDS OF YEARS! HEE, HEE, HEE!

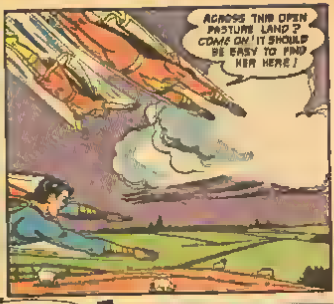

TRAITOR! DOUBLE-CROSSER!
THE BARON AT LAST! GRAB HIM!

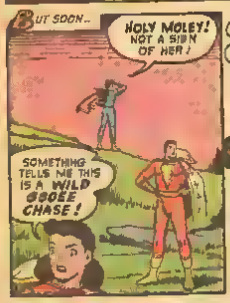

BUT WHERE'S THE YOUTH MAGNET?
MATILDA TOOK IT, CURSE HER! I KNEW I SHOULD NEVER HAVE TRUSTED THAT HAG! WHY, SHE'S A LOW-DOWN THIEF!

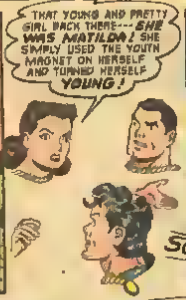

SHE SAID SHE'D GO TO ANOTHER CITY AND TAKE UP LIFE THERE, USING THE YOUTH MAGNET TO LIVE FOR CENTURIES! GO AND CATCH THAT CONNIVING CHEAT!
HOLY MOLEY! AFTER HER!

WE'VE GOT TO GET THAT YOUTH MAGNET BACK! SHE CAN'T HAVE RUN FAR, OLD AND FEEBLE AS SHE IS!

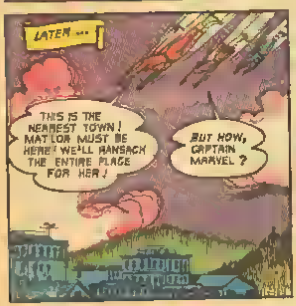
OH, MISS! DID YOU SEE A REAL OLD HAG COME THIS WAY?
WHY, YES! SHE WENT THAT WAY, SIR!

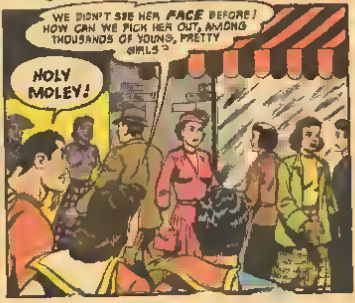

ACROSS THIS OPEN PASTURE LAND? COME ON! IT SHOULD BE EASY TO FIND HER HERE!

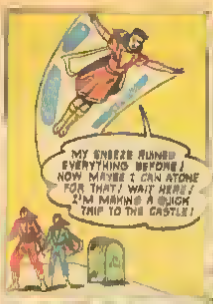

BUT SOON...
HOLY MOLEY! NOT A SIGN OF HER!
SOMETHING TELLS ME THIS IS A WILD GOOSE CHASE!

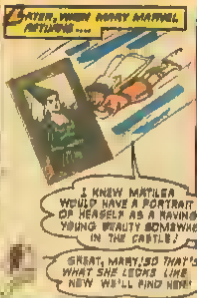

THAT YOUNG AND PRETTY GIRL BACK THERE--- SHE WAS MATILDA! SHE SIMPLY USED THE YOUTH MAGNET ON HERSELF AND TURNED HERSELF YOUNG!

AND ELSEWHERE...
HEE, HEE! LUCKY THEY DIDN'T NOTICE MY OLD-TIME GOWN! HOW I'LL HITCHHIKE TO TOWN!
SCREECH!

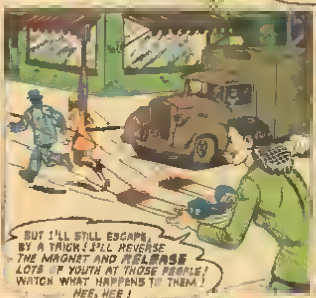

LATER...
THIS IS THE NEAREST TOWN! MATLOR MUST BE HERE! WE'LL RANSACK THE ENTIRE PLACE FOR HER!
BUT HOW, CAPTAIN MARVEL?

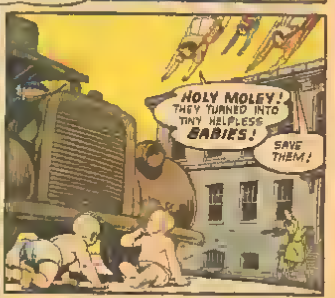

WE DIDN'T SEE HER FACE BEFORE! HOW CAN WE PICK HER OUT, AMONG THOUSANDS OF YOUNG, PRETTY GIRLS?
HOLY MOLEY!

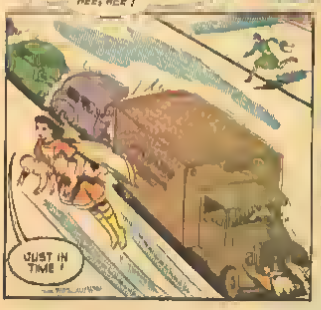

MY SNEEZE RUINED EVERYTHING BEFORE! NOW MAYBE I CAN ATONE FOR THAT! WAIT HERE! I'M MAKING A QUICK TRIP TO THE CASTLE!

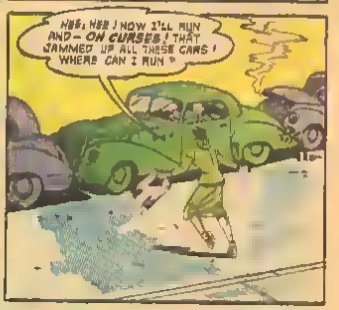

LATER, WHEN MARY MARVEL RETURNS...
I KNEW MATILDA WOULD HAVE A PORTRAIT OF HERSELF AS A RAVING YOUNG BEAUTY SOMEWHERE IN THE CASTLE!
GREAT, MARY! SO THAT'S WHAT SHE LOOKS LIKE NOW WE'LL FIND HER!

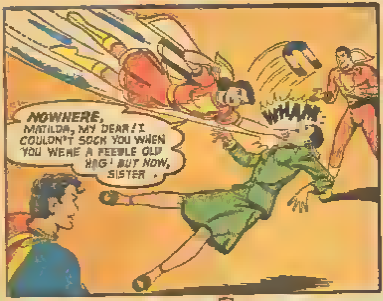
THERE SHE IS! HI, MATILDA, OLD GIRL! AND I MEAN OLD!
CURSES! THEY FOUND ME OUT


BUT I'LL STILL ESCAPE, BY A TRICK! I'LL REVERSE THE MAGNET AND RELEASE LOTS OF YOUTH AT THOSE PEOPLE! WATCH WHAT HAPPENS TO THEM! HEE, HEE!

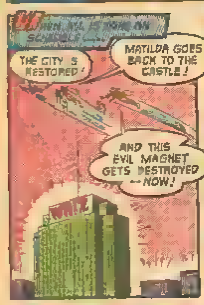

HOLY MOLEY! THEY TURNED INTO TINY HELPLESS BABIES!
SAVE THEM!

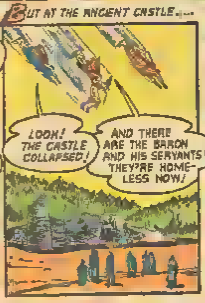

JUST IN TIME!


HEE, HEE! NOW I'LL RUN AND— OH CURSES! THAT JAMMED UP ALL THESE CARS! WHERE CAN I RUN?

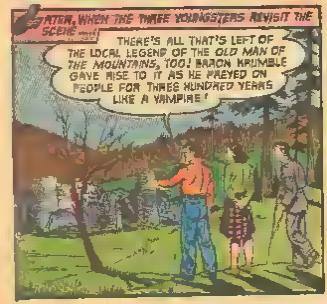

NOWHERE, MATILDA, MY DEAR! I COULDN'T SOCK YOU WHEN YOU WERE A FEEBLE OLD HAG! BUT NOW, SISTER!
WHAM!

AT LAST—THE YOUTH MAGNET IS IN OUR HANDS! FIRST, I'LL TURN THOSE BABIES INTO ADULTS, BY "STERLING" YOUTH FROM THEM! FINALLY, THE AFFLICTED CITY WILL BE RESTORED TO NORMAL!


WHEN ALL IS NOW AN ORDINARY SCENE....
THE CITY IS RESTORED!
MATILDA GOES BACK TO THE CASTLE!
AND THIS EVIL MAGNET GETS DESTROYED —NOW!
WHIZ


BUT AT THE ANCIENT CASTLE....
LOOK! THE CASTLE COLLAPSED!
AND THERE ARE THE BARON AND HIS SERVANTS! THEY'RE HOMELESS NOW!

WELL, WE'LL TAKE THEM ALL TO AN OLD PEOPLE'S HOME! THAT'S WHERE THEY BELONG ANYWAY!


LATER, WHEN THE THREE YOUNGSTERS REVISIT THE SCENE....
THERE'S ALL THAT'S LEFT OF THE LOCAL LEGEND OF THE OLD MAN OF THE MOUNTAINS, TOO! BARON KRUMBLE GAVE RISE TO IT AS HE PREYED ON PEOPLE FOR THREE HUNDRED YEARS LIKE A VAMPIRE!

WELL, ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL!
C'MON, LET'S GET ON WITH OUR HIKE!

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Mail Coupon Today!
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